

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 SS-15 L-03

PRS-01 VO-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FBIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SP-02 SAJ-01 /060 W

----- 107871

P R 121001Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1083

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 3756

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CGEN, PINT, UR

SUBJECT: EMBASSY ACCESS INCIDENT

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1530, MARCH 11, FIVE SOVIET CITIZENS ATTEMPTED TO ENTER THE EMBASSY, BUT TWO OF THE FIVE, A MAN AND HIS FOUR YEAR OLD DAUGHTER, WERE DETAINED BY THE EMBASSY MILITIA DETAIL. DESPITE INTERVENTION BY THREE CONSULAR OFFICERS, THE MAN CARRYING THE CHILD WAS FORCED TO THE DETENTION SHACK AT THE SOUTH END OF THE EMBASSY BUILDING.

2. CONSOFF THEN INTERVIEWED THE THREE SOVIETS WHO HAD SUCCESSFULLY ENTERED THE BUILDING, TWO BROTHERS AND THE WIFE OF THE DETAINED MAN (UNRELATED TO THE TWO BROTHERS). ACCORDING TO ONE OF THE BROTHERS, ALEKSANDR MIKHAYLOVICH VIDNYY, ALL ARE SEEKING TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES. THEY HAVE NO US RELATIVES AND NO "VYZOV" BUT DECIDED TO RISK ENTERING THE EMBASSY TO REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM. ALTHOUGH ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP ARE RESIDENTS OF LENINGRAD, THEY TOLD CONSOFF THAT THEY THOUGHT THEIR CHANCES TO ENTER THE EMBASSY WOULD BE GREATER THAN TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL. WHEN TOLD BY CONSOFF THAT WE COULD NOT OFFER THEM POLITICAL ASYLUM, THEY AGREED TO LEAVE THE EMBASSY AFTER RELEASE OF THE DETAINED MAN.

3. WHILE THIS INTERVIEW WAS IN PROGRESS, THE MILITIA DETAIL WAS

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SIGNIFICANTLY REINFORCED BY BOTH PLAINCLOTHES AND UNIFORMED

PERSONNEL. THE CHIEF OF PLAINCLOTHES DETAIL THEN ASKED TO TALK WITH CONSOFF AND OFFERED TO ALLOW THE DETAINED MAN TO ENTER EMBASSY IF HIS WIFE WOULD COME OUT AND WAIT WITH THE CHILD IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY. THE WIFE AGREED AND EXITED WITH CONSOFF WHEREUPON HER HUSBAND WAS RELEASED AND ALLOWED TO ENTER.

4. ALL ADULT MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE ABLE TO COMPLETE FS-497'S. VIDNYY AND HIS BROTHER, BORIS MIKHAYLOVICH EFREMOV, ARE EMPLOYED AS DRIVERS WHILE THE DETAINED MAN, ALEKSEY VCEVOPODOVICH KRASNOVSKIY AND HIS WIFE ZOYA ALEKSEYEVNA KRASNOVSKAYA REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS ARTISTS. WITHOUT MAKING ANY PROMISES, CONSOFF AGREED TO INQUIRE WHETHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE (I.E., WHETHER THEY WOULD PREPARE AND SEND VYZOV FOR THEM).

5. AFTER COMPLETION OF FS-497 BY KRASNOVSKIY, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP EXITED EMBASSY IN COMPANY OF THREE EMBASSY OFFICERS. KRASNOVSKAYA AND HER CHILD JOINED THE GROUP IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY, AND EMBASSY OFFICERS ESCORTED THEM TO AN INTERSECTION APPROXIMATELY 200 YARDS FROM THE EMBASSY ENTRANCE. THE GROUP WAS FOLLOWED BY SEVERAL PLAIN-CLOTHES PERSONNEL WHO CONTINUED TO TAIL THEM AFTER EMBASSY OFFICERS TURNED BACK. THEY ATTEMPTED TO HAIL A TAXI BUT WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY THE PLAINCLOTHES PERSONNEL. KRAS-

NOVSKAYA INITIALLY ESCAPED AND RAN BACK TO THE EMBASSY OFFICERS, BUT WE COULD ONLY SUGGEST THAT SHE ASK THE MILITIA TO REUNITE HER WITH HER FAMILY.

6. EMBASSY HAS PROTESTED INCIDENT TO MFA BY NOTE. STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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